

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 215058
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 SAS-02 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-09 SOE-02
DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 PA-01
TRSE-00 /136 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:MHORNBLOW:DE
APPROVED BY P:DNEWSOM
S/AS:BKELLY
T/D:JNYE
PM:ALOCKE
AID:MADLER
HA:EJONES
NEA:JMIKLOS

-----091042 240014Z /61
O 232357Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MNUC, TECH, PK, FR, US

SUBJECT: REPROCESSING - PRESS GUIDANCE

FOLLOWING FYI IS PRESS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT WILL USE IF
ASKED ABOUT GENERAL ZIA'S REPORTED STATEMENT THAT FRANCE
HAS CANCELLED ITS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN A NUCLEAR
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REPROCESSING PLANT. IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS POSTS
SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO GO BEYOND THIS GUIDANCE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON GENERAL ZIA'S ANNOUNCEMENT
THAT FRANCE HAS CANCELLED ITS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PAKISTAN
WITH A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT?

A. WE DO NOT WISH TO COMMENT ON GENERAL ZIA'S STATEMENT. WE OF COURSE ARE CONCERNED WITH NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD BUT THIS IS AN ISSUE ESSENTIALLY BETWEEN FRANCE AND PAKISTAN.

Q. IS THE REPORT TRUE? HAVEN'T WE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BOTH THE FRENCH AND THE PAKISTANIS ON THIS MATTER?

A. SINCE THIS INVOLVES PRIMARILY THE FRENCH AND PAKISTANI GOVERNMENTS WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE TO COMMENT. WE, OF COURSE, HAVE DISCUSSED OUR VIEWS ON NUCLEAR REPRO-

CESSING WITH BOTH GOVERNMENTS BUT ARE NOT PRIVY TO THE SPECIFICS OF THE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

Q. BUT THE U.S. MUST HAVE AN OPINION ON THE REPORTED CANCELLATION. WHAT IS THE U.S. VIEW?

A. OUR POSITION CONCERNING THE SPREAD OF NATIONAL NUCLEAR REPROCESSING FACILITIES IS WELL KNOWN. I WOULD REPEAT THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE ESSENTIALLY BETWEEN FRANCE AND PAKISTAN.

Q. WILL THE UNITED STATES NOW RESUME ECONOMIC AID TO PAKISTAN?

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A. WE HAVE NOT CUT OFF OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT SIGNED ANY NEW LOAN OR GRANT AGREEMENTS SINCE LAST AUGUST, WE HAVE PROVIDED 59.4 MILLION DOLLARS PL 480 ASSISTANCE SINCE THAT TIME. IN ADDITION OUR LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM IS CONTINUING UNDER EXISTING AGREEMENTS. WE BELIEVE PAKISTAN IS AN IMPORTANT COUNTRY AND HOPE TO SIGN NEW AID AGREEMENTS WITH PAKISTAN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON GENERAL ZIA'S STATEMENT THAT GENERAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD BY OCTOBER OF NEXT YEAR?

A. WE WELCOME THIS STATEMENT WE ARE PLEASED THAT GENERAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD BY OCTOBER OF 1979. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN NEA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED B:NEA/PAB:JACOON

APPROVED BY:NEA/PAB:JACOON

-----098166 241852Z /12

P 241840Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 7466

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 215058 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PARIS
NEW DELHI TEHRAN KABUL AUG 23

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 215058

E.O. 11652: N/A

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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: REPROCESSING - PRESS GUIDANCE FOLLOWING FYI IS PRESS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT WILL USE IF ASKED ABOUT GENERAL ZIA'S REPORTED STATEMENT THAT
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, SOPN, PK, FR, US
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
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